

MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE INQUIRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATIONS BY EACH OF

(a) CANADIAN ARCTIC GAS PIPELINE LIMITED FOR A  
RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS  
CROWN LANDS WITHIN THE YUKON TERRITORY AND  
THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, and

(b) FOOTHILLS PIPE LINES LTD. FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY  
THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS CROWN LANDS  
WITHIN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL  
AND ECONOMIC IMPACT REGIONALLY OF THE CONSTRUCTION,  
OPERATION AND SUBSEQUENT ABANDONMENT OF THE ABOVE  
PROPOSED PIPELINE

(Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Berger, Commissioner)

**Wrigley, N.W.T.  
September 10, 1975.**

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

**Volume 28**

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Mr. Russell Anthony	For Canadian Arctic Resources Committee

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1 Fort Wrigley, N.W.T.

2 September 10, 1975.

3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
5 gentlemen, I'll call our hearing in Fort Wrigley to order.

6 EDWARD HARDISTY, sworn as Interpreter

7 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Interpreter, I'm  
8 just going to say a few words to open the meeting, and  
9 would you interpret what I say when I pause?

10 I am Judge Berger and I am  
11 conducting an Inquiry into the proposal to build a  
12 pipeline up the Mackenzie Valley, I'm sure you've heard  
13 about the proposal to build a pipeline. There are two  
14 companies, Arctic Gas and Foothills, that want to build  
15 it, and I have invited representatives of those  
16 companies to be here today so that they can listen to  
17 what you have to say. That's what I'm here for too, to  
18 listen to what you have to say about the proposal to  
19 build a pipeline.

20 Today I'm going to ask the  
21 Chief of the Band here in Wrigley and the members of  
22 the Band Council, and those of you who wish to speak to  
23 do so. I think I should say that we have been told  
24 that by Mr. Horte, the president of Arctic Gas, that if  
25 a gas pipeline is built up the Mackenzie valley it is  
26 likely that Arctic Gas will want to build a second gas  
27 pipeline up the Mackenzie Valley within five years  
28 after the first one has been built. We have been told  
29 by Mr. Blair, the president of Foothills, that if a gas  
30 pipeline is built, it will likely result in increased

1 | oil and gas exploration activity in -- along the route  
2 | of the pipeline up the Mackenzie Valley, We have also  
3 | been told that the companies that have found gas in the  
4 | Mackenzie Delta have found oil there too, and that they  
5 | have advised the Government of Canada that they want to  
6 | build an oil pipeline up the Mackenzie Valley to be  
7 | completed by 1983.

8 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Would you  
9 | make that short so the interpreter can translate that?

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: Right,  
11 | O.K. How far did -- do you want me to start that  
12 | again?

13 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Yes.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: All right.  
15 | I'll repeat what I said. The reason I'm here today is  
16 | to listen to what your Chief and the members of your  
17 | Band Council and you yourselves have to say. That's  
18 | why we're having this hearing, so that I can listen to  
19 | you My job is to consider not just what the results  
20 | would be if a gas pipeline were built, but to consider  
21 | what would likely come after that.

22 | These two companies want to  
23 | build a gas pipeline. The government has asked me to  
24 | consider what that would mean, what the impact would  
25 | be, what effect it would have on the north and upon  
26 | the people that live here. So these companies who  
27 | want to build a gas pipeline, they have told us that  
28 | they will likely want to build a second gas pipeline  
29 | within five years of the first has been completed. We  
30 | have been told that the companies that have found

1 gas in the Mackenzie Delta have also found oil there.  
2 They say that they want to build an oil pipeline up the  
3 Mackenzie Valley by 1983.

4 The Government of Canada has  
5 to decide whether they will let them build the gas  
6 pipeline but the government is busy in Ottawa running  
7 the country, they can't be here to listen to what you  
8 have to say, so they sent me.

9 So you live here, this is  
10 your home. I want you to tell me what you think about  
11 all of this and that will help me to decide what  
12 recommendations I should make to the government.

13 So I'll call on Chief  
14 Hardisty to make the first statement.

15

16 CHIEF HENRY HARDISTY sworn:  
17 THE WITNESS: Well, thank you  
18 very much, Mr. Berger.

19 First of all, I would like to  
20 present the struggle we 'have with the Territorial and  
21 Federal Governments, especially the Federal Government.

22 Three years ago I beginning to  
23 work with the people within this settlement. That was  
24 late in -- before Christmas, there was a company coming  
25 through our settlement by the name of COMINCO. So the  
26 chairman and I went out there to see if they've got any  
27 land use permit to go across the river. The thing  
28 happened was that we asked them why they did not consult  
29 the people of Wrigley before coming out, they were just  
30 down by the road, you know, where the airport is, just

1 | past there. That's when we put a stop to them so there  
2 | was no consultation and there was no land use permit.  
3 | They just coming in, like it's a free country, I know it  
4 | is a free country but you know, they didn't even care  
5 | about the people. They wanted to do their work and then  
6 | forget about it. Do their work and then the money they  
7 | make and then after that they can get out and they're  
8 | happy that they have their hand full of money in their  
9 | pocket.

10 |   Well anyway, so we started to  
11 | backcheck on them, we checked with people in  
12 | Yellowknife, the land use people, and there was no  
13 | permit issued to that particular outfit. So a few days  
14 | later a regional director, Mr. Armstrong, came into our  
15 | settlement to meet with the Chief and the Settlement  
16 | Council. We met with them, and the people -- well the  
17 | Chief and the Settlement Council had said that they did  
18 | not accept the land use permit issued to this outfit.  
19 | So Mr. Armstrong had a no-no from Wrigley from the  
20 | Chief, and the Settlement Council, and the chairman.

21 |   So they went back that very  
22 | night to Yellowknife. Within hours we've got this  
23 | letter which has been flown in by helicopter from  
24 | Yellowknife to the people here. This letter stated  
25 | that the company been issued a land use permit over  
26 | above what the people of Wrigley had said.

27 |   This is the kind of thing  
28 | that we're having with the government.

29 |   So we did not gain anything from  
30 | that fight we had with the Federal Government and COMINCO.





1 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, those  
2 will be marked as exhibits. The letter relating to the  
3 land use permit to COMINCO and the clipping relating to  
4 the same matter will be marked as exhibits, and then the  
5 file relating to the highway.  
6 (CLIPPING RE COMINCO & LETTER DATED MARCH 29, 1973 MARKED  
7 EXHIBIT C-205)

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, carry  
9 on then.

10 THE WITNESS: Later on in that  
11 summer, this was just recently, we met with the Federal  
12 Government representative and the people from Yellowknife,  
13 highway project people. We had a public meeting here in  
14 this hall. At that time I wasn't the chief, and they held  
15 a meeting with the government representative. There was  
16 also Assistant Commissioner Sid Hancock was here, too.  
17 Anyway what happened, the Federal Government had their  
18 engineers and their representatives were here, and they  
19 were using their technique to talk the Settlement Council  
20 and the chief to give the proposal route right around  
21 Wrigley, which I did not like but I could not do nothing  
22 over and above what the chief had said.

23 But apparently they signed a  
24 paper approving the route around Wrigley. They only  
25 sign, the paper says they can go around Wrigley; but a  
26 little further back than what they originally proposed.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: That's Route  
28 'B" on this map, is it?

29 A No, it isn't. It's the  
30 other map.

1 Q Oh.

2 A It's not here so I could  
3 not show you. At the same time the Chief and the Council  
4 had said that, "We'll give you a proposal route if you  
5 give us a contract to the co-op."

6 They said, "O.K."

7 Q The contract for what?

8 A For the clearing of the  
9 right-of-way. Then they left, they said they would  
10 notify us within a week. O.K., fine, they went home.  
11 Nothing has been heard. Two weeks passed, so co-op  
12 manager had called them. "Is there anything been clone  
13 about the contract?"

14 Sure, there was nothing done.  
15 But no, they said there was something done, they were  
16 just waiting for the Ottawa to approve the contract.  
17 They did not agree with our proposal of the money to do  
18 the 12-mile from here south, and as up till now, the co-  
19 op manager and I do not know what happened to the  
20 contract, if it's been approved or not.

21 This is the kind of thing the  
22 governments are doing to us.

23 To my understanding, the  
24 government are just copping out because they want Hire  
25 North to do that contract. They know that the Hire North  
26 have been doing all the clearing, and here the people of  
27 Wrigley, they want to do it themselves, and I don't think  
28 that they think hat Wrigley could do it; but I know that  
29 Wrigley can do it. They can do the clearing all they  
30 want. The way the government want is the way they can

1 do it. I bet they can do a better job than the Hire  
2 North would.

3 Well, this is why as up till  
4 now we haven't heard a thing on the contract, if it's  
5 been approved or not.

6 Well, this is all I'm going to  
7 say about that contract, but under the highway there I've  
8 still got a few things on my mind. Just recently Jud  
9 Buchanan made an announcement on the radio that the  
10 highway is going to end in Wrigley. I strongly feel that  
11 if this highway is going to end in Wrigley, again I'm  
12 going to oppose it.

13 As you can see, the people here  
14 are not quite prepared for the highway, although we are  
15 preparing ourselves, but we're slowing progressing. You  
16 have heard the kind of struggles that Chief Jim Antoine  
17 has in Wrigley -- the developers mainly took over Fort  
18 Simpson and now Chief Antoine -- you heard him yesterday  
19 --.the kind of thing he has been having. I do not want  
20 the same thing happening to Wrigley.

21 I do not like what Buchanan has  
22 said about the highway ending up in Wrigley because there  
23 is absolutely no consultation been given to the people,  
24 nothing was said, and here this statement he made s out  
25 on the radio. I don't know what Buchanan thinks he is,  
26 some kind of a god for the Northwest Territories to push  
27 the Indians the way he wants. The people of Northwest  
28 Territories are different from the people -- from the  
29 southern people. Their way of life compared to the Dene  
30 way of life is totally different. If this Mr.

1 Buchanan, he represent the people of the north, by rights  
2 he should have come to Wrigley to consult with the people  
3 before he made that statement on the radio.

4 Now I just as soon see the  
5 whole highway stop where it is, at River Between.

6 Q River Between Two  
7 Mountains, how far is that south of Wrigley?

8 A It's between and miles  
9 south. I have more of this clipping concern that highway  
10 ending Wrigley.

11 Q Well, we'd like to have  
12 those if we may then, please.

13 A I myself have been up the  
14 river to the camp, not the Hire North Camp, the camp  
15 below it which is about a mile from the Hire North Camp.  
16 The people that lives there are the Yendi boys, they've  
17 been living there since they were kids. Their parents  
18 died there and they lived there all their life, they do  
19 their trapping from that area.

20 I could hear the truck moving  
21 back and forth from that camp, and the power plant  
22 humming all night. I don't know if the Hire North  
23 consult with those people before they moved in so close  
24 to them, disturbing them. I was talking to one of the  
25 boys a summer ago, and I asked him if he was consulted,  
26 had he heard anything about the camp before it was moved  
27 there? He said, "None." As usual he was trapping, the  
28 camp moved in the winter when he. was trapping over by  
29 Fish Lake, which is not too far from the River  
30 Between. Anyway, one day he was coming home from his

1 trapline along the hush trail he had, here he saw a  
2 bulldozer and graders clearing the land. He wondered, he  
3 said he just looked and went by and went home.

4 A week later there was a camp  
5 set up. This is the kind of thing our governments are  
6 doing to us so far. The same time there was a winter  
7 road opened to Wrigley, in fact past Wrigley down to  
8 Norman Wells. I asked him if he has any problem with  
9 those people.

10 He said, "No," But later he  
11 said, this was on the winter road just above his house,  
12 he had one trap close to the road that was set for lynx,  
13 Well, he caught a lynx all right, but he never got to  
14 skin it. What happened was someone took that lynx out of  
15 his trap, shot and killed that lynx, the blood was  
16 smeared on the snow. He showed me, and the animal was  
17 dragged to the road.

18 I asked him, "Have you any idea  
19 who did it?" And I asked him how long ago it happened.

20 He said, "A week ago."

21 O.K., that's just the beginning  
22 of the highway, and look that's just a winter road and  
23 the people are being used like this. They steal their  
24 fur right out of their traps. People who live there,  
25 they don't make their incomes from driving trucks or  
26 anything like that, or working. Their income comes from  
27 trapping and hunting. This is the way they live, it's  
28 the way their parents taught them, it's the way they  
29 living.

30 Now if this kind of thing is

1 going to happen, continuously happening, then why have  
2 the highway? This is why, one of the examples why I just  
3 as soon see the highway stop at River Between. In fact,  
4 just close it completely.

5 I went to school in Simpson  
6 back in 1960's before the highway come to Fort Simpson.  
7 There was -- actually there was -- it doesn't-look as  
8 today Fort Simpson look. The only thing I seen there was  
9 a small coffee shop and the Bay, then the Imperial Oil  
10 Gas station, and then one small charter aircraft was  
11 there. As soon as the highway end at Fort Simpson, the  
12 people started coming in from the south, just took over  
13 the community completely. They do not care what had  
14 happened to the native people, they care about the  
15 income they have in their pocket -- development,  
16 development, that's what they have in mind.

17 Now you can see Simpson.  
18 There's all kinds of things come, your charter planes,  
19 charter aircraft, and private enterprises within their  
20 own Simpson area, and the kind of struggle Chief Antoine  
21 is having with the white society in Simpson. As you can  
22 see, Mr. Berger, this settlement is nice and quiet. It  
23 has not been disturbed. If the highway is going to end  
24 here you're going to see the same thing what they have in  
25 Simpson, it's going to happen here.

26 But they have a highway at  
27 Simpson. People are beginning to have problems, especia-  
28 lly, in the summer when they get drifters from the south  
29 -- I don't think I'd call them "drifters", I'll call them  
30 trouble-makers, O.K., they travel, they thumb their

1 way up here. What do they do in Simpson? They hang  
2 around there selling drugs, and the people, especially  
3 the young people, are beginning to have problems with  
4 their parents. They begin to steal from their parents in  
5 order to buy the drug from these drifters. These are the  
6 kind of things that I see coming to Fort Wrigley. This  
7 is why I'd just as soon see the highway stop at River  
8 Between.

9  
10 This other third item I have  
11 here on my paper is quite important to some, well most of  
12 the people that move from the Old Town to the present  
13 Wrigley. The move was back in 1966. Three years before  
14 that the government had been meeting with the Chief and  
15 the Band Council persuading them to move from the old  
16 town to the present site. For three years they've been  
17 saying, "No."

18 Finally they promised people,  
19 the promise they make, that if we move from the Old Town  
20 to the present site that we do not have to worry about a  
21 thing. They promise the people the power bills will be  
22 paid by the government, the water will be delivered to  
23 the homes and it will be paid by the government. They  
24 promised the people that they move to the present site,  
25 that they will provide the fuel to burn, to heat their  
26 homes, and it will be paid by the government. What do I  
27 see today? These promises they made, I do not know where  
28 they go. Today I see people paying for their power  
29 bills. That is the kind of technique they're using to  
30 push us around and the homes were built here -- it took  
them one summer to do it.

1 | In the wintertime what we see is frost under the  
2 | windows, in the corner of the houses. These homes they  
3 | built, I don't think any building inspector would  
4 | recommend a person to live in. When they moved from the  
5 | Old Town that fall to move into their new homes they  
6 | were told to pay \$500. If they don't pay the \$500 they  
7 | can't go into their houses. By golly, if I was here at  
8 | that time I would just as soon go back to the Old Town.  
9 | But they paid \$500, they paid that to the teacher. I  
10 | don't know where the \$500 went. It did not go to the  
11 | government because a year ago we asked the government,  
12 | "Where did the \$500 went?"

13 |   They said they don't know.  
14 | They don't even have receipt for it. What happened was I  
15 | think the teacher that did it was just to make money for  
16 | himself.

17 |   As of today, not one of these  
18 | promises that were made to the people are carried out.  
19 | This is the kind of thing are happening to us. Will be  
20 | even worse if we get the southern impact in Wrigley. I  
21 | do not see the native existence in Wrigley years from now  
22 | if we do have the southern impact.

23 |   This fourth item, it has to  
24 | do with the education. As far as I remember, the  
25 | beginning of my education I was taught to live the way  
26 | the southern people live. Never once I was taught how  
27 | Dene ways of living to interfere with my education. I  
28 | had a friend of mine gave me a guideline which is  
29 | given to the teachers who are coming from the south  
30 | the way they're supposed to teach the native people.



1 | It is something interesting, really impresses me, which  
2 | I made photo copies of the pages which are important  
3 | that I have read, 'Some of the things I don't think it  
4 | should be taught in the Territories where the native-  
5 | especially to the native children.

6 |                   The guidelines was given to  
7 | these teachers before they come up here, why they should  
8 | teach the southern way than the northern. So our way of  
9 | life is different than the southern way of life. Some of  
10 | the things in here that are - really impresses ma, like I  
11 | said before, the teachers are to teach the children what  
12 | stop signs mean and what buses and trucks -- we don't  
13 | have that kind of thing up here, not back in '68, not in  
14 | the Old Town I don't remember seeing it; but those were  
15 | taught to us.

16 |                   The guidelines that pushes the  
17 | teachers, if they don't follow the guidelines they will  
18 | be fired, to my understanding it was like that. The  
19 | teacher' must teach the northern people -- students, to  
20 | live the southern way of life, not the Dene way of life.  
21 | The teacher get -- they have running water, and in some  
22 | place, I can't find it now, but in this thing there is a  
23 | place that says that why the teacher has the running  
24 | water, because they come from the south and they are used  
25 | to those kind of things, The Dene people, they're not  
26 | used to it, so let them provide their own homes in the  
27 | way they live because they're Dene anyway. This is what  
28 | the book says..

29 |                   If they think of us that way,  
30 | why bother us teaching? Why bother us teaching the way

1 | the southern way of livelihood? They should have just  
2 | left us completely.

3 |                                   Just recently the teacher here  
4 | in the settlement has started to teach, well, got some  
5 | funding from the government to teach the students here in  
6 | Wrigley a little bit of trapping, and then a little bit  
7 | of the way of living in the bush. That was two years ago  
8 | they started that. But it only lasts a month or so, or  
9 | two, because the funding wasn't that much.

10 |                                   I think if they want to have  
11 | teachers to teach in the north, I think they should be  
12 | taught the northern way of life before they come up to  
13 | the north to teach us Dene, because up till now the Dene  
14 | people know for themselves that they cannot accept the  
15 | southern way of living. They see for themselves that, I  
16 | like to see more the northern people to teach our  
17 | childrens the way to live and the way to trap in the  
18 | bush. Then the way to drive a taxicab or a bus in a city  
19 | and obey the rules and the laws that have been set up by  
20 | the lawmakers, the government -- Mr. Berger, you may keep  
21 | this for your exhibit.

22 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
23 | very much.

24 |                                   THE WITNESS: It is important  
25 | that you look over and you can see what I mean by --  
26 | (TEACHERS' GUIDELINES FOR NORTH MARKED EXHIBIT C-206)

27 |                                   THE WITNESS: Now this, I think  
28 | this is most important of my agenda, which concerns both  
29 | the people of the north and the government and the gas  
30 | people. I've been to a number of different

1 | communities, talked and listened especially to the old  
2 | people, What I hear from them is what you've been hearing  
3 | all summer. They do not accept the pipeline.

4 |                               This pipeline which we are  
5 | talking about, and a number of other things which I have  
6 | spoke and told you about it, it's going to affect every  
7 | one of us, not at the same time but little by little,  
8 | it's going to affect the kind of things that happen to  
9 | us.

10 |                              As you also have heard about  
11 | the Alaska oil pipeline, what's happening over there, I  
12 | believe you know most of it. The cost of living has gone  
13 | up, steady going up, going up, going up because there is  
14 | lots of money floating in that area where the pipeline -  
15 | the route of the pipeline, and the impact that they have  
16 | up there that I heard that people are paying for one egg  
17 | about this size, one egg about this size they are paying  
18 | \$2. for that egg for breakfast. If this kind of thing  
19 | is going to hit the north with the Canadian Gas Arctic  
20 | Pipeline, I don't think the native people will exist  
21 | unless they totally benefit from that pipeline, which I  
22 | see as of today the native people are not going to  
23 | benefit from that pipeline.

24 |                              As you can see, you have been  
25 | to the communities along the Mackenzie River, the  
26 | proposal route of the pipeline. Have you ever been to  
27 | these communities and have you seen the people are  
28 | prepared for this pipeline? I don't think you did.

29 |                              In order for the Dene to benefit  
30 | from the pipeline, just give them time, give us time to

1 settle our land claims. As you heard Chief Frank  
2 T'Seleie, what he says about the pipeline which I strongly  
3 support it, that the people up in the north do not accept  
4 the pipeline.

5 Now, Mr. Berger, on behalf of  
6 the people living in the settlement and all the people in  
7 the Territories, especially the Dene, we do not want the  
8 pipeline. I am going to say the same thing that the  
9 people of Wrigley have the same feeling that we do not  
10 want the pipeline.

11 I've seen the proposal route  
12 for the highway -- I mean the pipeline, the stockpiles,  
13 compressor stations, campsites, that one of this campsite  
14 which is later on it's going to be a compressor station,  
15 I do not like where it's been proposed. The proposed  
16 campsite is within Wrigley region. The campsite or later  
17 on it's going to be a compressor station which I'm  
18 referring to the one at River Between.

19 Let me give you some example  
20 why I do not like that. There is a Hire North Camp  
21 there at the present moment. Also there is the Yendi  
22 boys who lived there all their lives and their parents  
23 lived there before the Hire North Camp. I see that  
24 they been disturbed but what can they do? Not very  
25 much they can do. If you go to the houses of these  
26 Yendi boys that live there, you can totally hear the  
27 Power Plant running from the Hire North Camp, and the  
28 truck and the vehicles moving back and forth. To my  
29 understanding why the Yendi boys live there in River  
30 Between rather than live in the settlement is that they

1 want to live peace and quiet by themselves. This is why  
2 they live out there. Also the people in Willow Lake  
3 River.

4 Now I'm going to ask if it is  
5 possible, if this pipeline is going to go through, that  
6 I'd much rather see -not see a compressor station or a  
7 campsite there, because if it's going to be a campsite  
8 there's going to be more than 3,000 people that's going  
9 to camp there. I know they're going to be bothering the  
10 Yendi. So if ever the pipeline goes through, I ask that  
11 proposal be changed.

12 I'll give you some example why.  
13 A long time before the Hire North moved their camp there  
14 the boys had lived there, used to get their animals, they  
15 used to shoot the moose at their back door; but since the  
16 camp moved there they have one hell of a time trapping.  
17 No animal hang around there, nothing, nothing to trap.  
18 If they are going to put 3,000 people in that particular  
19 spot it's going to be even worse than it is today. If we  
20 ever get through here with the meeting and we can visit  
21 the campsite, then you'll see why that I do not accept  
22 the pipeline or the proposal site of the camp.

23 Well, I guess this is all I  
24 have for now until something else comes up. Thank you.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
26 chief.

27

28 (WITNESS ASIDE)

29 THE COMMISSIONER: Do

30 other members of the Band Council wish to say anything

1 | at this time?

2 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Yes, they said  
3 | they would like to add something but give us a break, he  
4 | says.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: How long?  
6 | Well, we should stop for supper, I guess, should we?

7 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Yes.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: How long do  
9 | you think? When do you want to start again?

10 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Well, how  
11 | about we start gathering around 8:30 then, we might get  
12 | it going by then.

13 | THE COMMISSIONER: O.K., 8:30,  
14 | everybody be here at 8:30.

15 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

16 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
18 | gentlemen, we'll call the hearing to order again this  
19 | evening.

20 | Chief Hardisty, I understand  
21 | you have a few things you'd like to say now.

22 |

23 | CHIEF HENRY HARDISTY resumed:

24 | THE WITNESS: I heard myself on  
25 | the radio tonight that there is a few things that I --  
26 | only one particular thing I would like to correct is  
27 | that when I was talking about Chief Jim Antoine, the  
28 | struggle he's having between the Dene people and the  
29 | Monla people in Simpson, that I said -- when I said, I  
30 | overheard myself saying that Chief Jim Antoine having

1 a struggle with the white people in Simpson. I didn't  
2 say "in Simpson", I said "in Wrigley", So I'd like to  
3 clarify this by saying that the struggles that Chief Jim  
4 Antoine is having in Simpson between the Dene people and  
5 the Monla people in Simpson.

6 Thank you very much. I just  
7 wanted to clarify this for the press and the C.B.C.  
8 reporters. I hope they understood.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: I think they  
10 did. I think we all understood you meant Simpson and not  
11 Wrigley.

12 THE WITNESS: Thank you. I'll  
13 turn the mike over to one of my councillors.

14 (WITNESS ASIDE)

15

16

17 THE COMMISSIONER: Fine.

18

19 GABE HARDISTY sworn:

20 THE INTERPRETER: Gabe wants me  
21 to translate and I told him not to make his speech too  
22 long because I get lost sometime and I have to ask him  
23 over again.

24 THE COMMISSIONER: O.K.

25 THE INTERPRETER: Gabe says Mr.  
26 Berger, thanks for sitting among us and I guess you  
27 expect to see what quite a bit of the people say and  
28 think, and what I have to say. I want to make a speech  
29 but he says it's not going to be very long.

30 He says talking about this

1 pipeline and he says I guess you're expecting people to  
2 say something about it, and he says he feels he'd like  
3 to say something about it himself. He says this pipeline  
4 they're talking about, he says they're putting it on  
5 our land, and we mean it's our land. But they go ahead  
6 and they expect to put it through. He says he doesn't  
7 think very much about it but if it goes through  
8 something has to be done about it. If this pipeline  
9 is put through there is going to be a lot of damage  
10 done to the country.

11 He says we people have been  
12 living here for a long time and way back people used  
13 to live pretty good off the land. They didn't have  
14 much trouble to get meat and so forth; but if this  
15 pipeline goes through there will be a lot of damage  
16 done through this, the way of living for the Indian  
17 people. There's going to be damage done to the land and  
18 there's going to be, the game is going to be decreasing,  
19 too.

20 Why put the pipeline through?  
21 The Indians, we Dene people we're not going to make any  
22 money out of it, and only the white people are going to  
23 make money out of it. So we don't need the pipeline.  
24 Yes, and he says why put the pipeline through? It's not  
25 going to benefit the Indians. We will just live like we  
26 used to, poor, and we're not going to get any richer by  
27 bringing the pipeline in. He says why put the pipeline  
28 through? They've done enough damage, the oil companies  
29 did enough damage to the country already. There's  
30 hardly any moose around, no rabbits, no chicken.



1 He says by doing this they're going to bring back the  
2 moose and chicken and rabbits? He says why put the  
3 pipeline in? Right now there's hardly any rabbits, no  
4 chicken, no rabbits, hardly any moose, and he says  
5 getting meat in from outside about the size of your fist  
6 comes almost to \$10.

7 He says that's why a lot of  
8 people are against the pipeline. He says a lot of Dene  
9 people are going to be working on the pipeline but so far  
10 he thinks only the educated ones will be working on  
11 there. He says the trapper, for instance you take out  
12 one from Willow River or River Between Two Mountains, the  
13 Yendi Boys, they've been trapping and living out there  
14 all summer. That is what he's trying to explain. Can  
15 you take one of those guys out and put him on a pipeline  
16 and tell him to work? because if you don't know how to  
17 drive a truck or any machinery, you'll never get no job  
18 on the pipeline.

19 He says he has no use for the  
20 pipeline. He says you could be well educated, drive all  
21 the machinery, and do all sorts of jobs, but he says  
22 that's not going to last a lifetime He says -- well like  
23 he's saying, if they know how to drive all trucks, all  
24 machinery, he says after the pipeline is finished and he's  
25 not wanted any more, what is he going to do, he says?

26 He says he has no use for it.  
27 He says he lives off the land and what he's prescribing  
28 is why should I say "yes"? I have no use for it. He says  
29 anything happens to that pipe, well what little game is  
30 left is going to be all gone, all the game lives off

1 | trees, willows, poplar, beaver; those they die off. Well  
2 | the animals are gone. That is why, he says, they want to  
3 | go ahead and push the pipeline but he says he's against  
4 | it, he has no use for it.

5 |                                 He says we Dene people, we know  
6 | we like to keep the way -- the living we're having,  
7 | living off the land. That's why he says he has no use  
8 | for the pipeline. He says you get one of the people out  
9 | from Ottawa and take them down here and O.K., you set  
10 | your traps over there but he says that guy will never  
11 | come back, you'll find him frozen over there.

12 |                                 This is the point he wash  
13 | driving at. He says that's the way it's going to be for  
14 | us. Once you put the pipeline in and something happens,  
15 | well that's the end of the Dene nation. That's what he's  
16 | talking about.

17 |                                 He just wants to say a few  
18 | things about the highway. The highway they're cutting is  
19 | only miles out of here, that's how far the clearing has  
20 | gone on the highway. The gravelling so far is up to  
21 | River Between Two Mountains. He says Mr. Munroe, I  
22 | guess he has something to do with that highway and he  
23 | came down with Commissioner, sit down and talk, they  
24 | had a meeting, they had a meeting here with them about  
25 | that.

26 |                                 He wants to say a few things  
27 | about what Munroe and Sid Hancock said. They had a  
28 | meeting here and - about the highway -- and we're  
29 | starting a co-op here and what the meeting was concerned  
30 | with, just what Henry was saying lately about this

1 highway, and they had a meeting here with Munroe and  
2 Hancock, and he felt pretty sure that they were saying  
3 'yes" when they took off, but since then they have never  
4 heard nothing about it.

5 This is the way the government  
6 treat us. All the meeting was or it would be easier to  
7 do it that way, yes, yes, you know. He said but after  
8 they take off they don't think about what was said at the  
9 meeting. They turn around and do their own way, their  
10 own way they feel about it, not what the people think  
11 about it, or feel about it.

12 He says what's the use of  
13 talking for a meeting like that, or just like begging,  
14 you know, he says it's no use, just like talking to  
15 yourself. He says so far, he says I've been thinking, he  
16 says, I think the government is just like that. What's  
17 the use of talking, he says, you get nothing out of it.  
18 It's just like talking to your own self.

19 He says that's what happening  
20 to the Dene people. He says no, he says they turn around  
21 and do whatever they like. That's just pushing Dene  
22 people down and then they're trying to do -- they do what  
23 they think is right for them but not for the Dene people.  
24 He says if highway ever comes here there's going to be  
25 a lot of white people, you won't know who the native is  
26 or who lives here. That's what's going to happen. He  
27 says this is why we're against the highway. Quite a  
28 few years they've been having meeting off and on  
29 again and that's why he's against it, you know,  
30 and he likes to see land claims settled before

1 | anything goes ahead.

2 |                             About the highway, he says why  
3 | don't they -- if they want it why don't they keep pushing  
4 | it down instead of ending it here? Why start it and then  
5 | they're saying there's no money for it? He says if it's  
6 | only -- the highway is as far as Wrigley well he says  
7 | we're going to be in a bad situation.

8 |                             He says he heard Mr. Black talk  
9 | on the radio and he said he didn't like what he -- he  
10 | said this highway that's going, a lot of native people  
11 | are working on it and making lots of money and he says  
12 | it's good for the Dene people. He says they're not  
13 | making anything out of this. He says what little money  
14 | they make go right back to the government pocket. I mean  
15 | to say they got a Liquor Store, and that's where all the  
16 | money goes. He says that's the reason they're saying  
17 | they're helping the people and they're talking about it  
18 | all the time. There is what's happening. Are they  
19 | overlooking us? He said they're putting the Dene people  
20 | up against a pretty hard thing but they don't realize it.

21 |                             He says compared to Simpson,  
22 | the highway's there now. There's a lot of people that  
23 | are not living like they used to. There's Liquor Store  
24 | there and beer parlor, and if a man hasn't got enough  
25 | money well they beg one another. Is that helping the  
26 | people? Is that the reason they want the highway just to  
27 | here, to put us in the same position?

28 |                             It's nice to live quietly here  
29 | but he says once the road comes in we're going to be piti-  
30 | ful, just like a lot of people in Simpson. He says quite

1 a few of us around here are working but he says as soon as  
2 the highway ends up here and a lot of white people come in,  
3 any work that's got to be done, they'll take it over and  
4 leave us with nothing. Thinking of it, he says is that the  
5 way I see it and that's what I'm saying now, he says. He  
6 says he doesn't want to see that happen to his own people.

7 He says power bills, fuel bills  
8 got to pay for that; but as soon as a lot of white people  
9 come into the country, well put it this way, now he says  
10 that's the same thing only they come with hunting. You  
11 can't do fishing without licence, you can't do nothing  
12 without a licence. I guess the white people doesn't see  
13 it that way, maybe that's why they want the highway just  
14 as far as Wrigley.

15 That is why he's against the  
16 pipeline and the highway, and he likes the way we're  
17 living off the land, That is why he likes to see the land  
18 claim settled before anything is done. That's all he has  
19 in mind to say now. If he thinks of anything else well  
20 he might speak up again.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
22 very much, Mr. Hardisty.

23 (WITNESS ASIDE)

24  
25 ARCHIE WILLIAMS sworn:

26 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

27 Mr. Berger, Glad to see you  
28 and I'd like to ask you or speak to you about a few  
29 things.

30 He says all about this pipeline

1 he says all over the Territory, he says everybody is  
2 talking about it and all the Dene people are against it,  
3 and that's right, he says we don't want it. He says if  
4 the pipeline is put through, if something happens to it  
5 he says all the big rivers and big creeks run into the  
6 Mackenzie, well that's where everything is going to go.  
7 He says all the fish, if that happens he says all the  
8 fish and ducks and waterfowl, they'll all be killed I  
9 off.

10 Starting on the pipeline,  
11 that's where quite a few Dene people is going to work on  
12 it; but after it's finished, well I guess there will be  
13 nothing left for the Dene people, he says he went to the  
14 meeting in Fort Liard, he says some of the people were  
15 talking there, they were talking about the Pointed  
16 Mountain Pipeline, When they, start he says quite a few  
17 people were working on it but after it finished, nothing.  
18 Like the Pointed Mountain, that's the only time that a  
19 lot of people, our Dene people were working on that  
20 pipeline is when it started, but after it was finished  
21 well they were out of work. I guess that's the same  
22 thing that's going to happen this way. That is why they  
23 want to put the pipeline in, but we are against it  
24 because we're not going to benefit out of it. When it  
25 start, I guess a lot of the boys around here will be  
26 working on it, but after it's finished I guess that's  
27 gone. No more work.

28 He says there is our land,  
29 and a lot of roads all over the place, If you think  
30 that's bad enough, I guess the same thing is going to

1 | happen if the pipeline comes through. He says he's  
2 | against that, if the pipeline does come through, he says  
3 | he's against the pumping station at River Between Two  
4 | Mountains, he doesn't want it there.

5 | He says like Good Hope way down  
6 | that way, and Franklin, and Norman, they're against the  
7 | pipeline, so are we, as well as the highway. He says he  
8 | was at the meeting about this highway this spring about  
9 | this mile out here. He says at the meeting it was  
10 | suggested that Wrigley people will get a contract to do  
11 | it. They had a meeting and it was suggested, and they  
12 | heard that the highway is just going to go as far as  
13 | Wrigley. He says why don't they stop it at River Between  
14 | Two Mountains? What Henry and Gabe are saying about if  
15 | the road does come to here, well what happen in Simpson,  
16 | the same thing is going to happen here.

17 | Yes, that's all he has to say  
18 | for now, He might say something later on.

19 | (WITNESS ASIDE)  
20 |  
21 |

22 | CHIEF HENRY HARDISTY, resumed:  
23 | THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, I  
24 | understand that Minister of Indian Affairs made the  
25 | statement on the radio this morning concerning our Dene  
26 | nation, proposal of our Dene nation, and the declaration,  
27 | That, I feel strongly that it is important to us Dene in  
28 | the Northwest Territories that our regional  
29 | representative, Chief Jim Antoine and I and a number of  
30 | other people had listened to it over in my house, and

1 | it was recorded that I strongly feel that tonight we  
2 | response to it, so we have written a number of things and  
3 | I would like to ask Chief Jim Antoine to come up and read  
4 | it.

5 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 |  
7 | CHIEF JIM ANTOINE resumed:

8 | THE WITNESS: Thank you, Chief  
9 | Henry Hardisty, for giving me some time to comment on the  
10 | statement of the Minister this morning. First of all,  
11 | I'd like to -- if it hasn't been done I'd like to enter as  
12 | an exhibit the Dene Declaration of Independence. I don't  
13 | have the copy with me, but can - is it possible to get it  
14 | later on? I'm sure you're all aware of it, and secondly,  
15 | I wonder if I could exhibit -- entered as an exhibit the  
16 | recording of the Minister's speech this afternoon as an  
17 | example of what we've been talking in Simpson and also  
18 | what's been mentioned here of how the government sees the  
19 | Dene people. So the recording is here, I wonder if --  
20 | should we listen to it, or should I just go into my  
21 | statement?

22 | THE COMMISSIONER: Why don't  
23 | you read your statement and -- well, you could play it if  
24 | you like. I'll leave it up to you. If you want to play  
25 | the recording, that's fine with me; but if you want to  
26 | just make the statement that's written out, that's all  
27 | right, too.

28 | THE WITNESS: The position of  
29 | the Government of Canada as stated by the Minister of  
30 | Indian & Northern Affairs, Jud Buchanan this morning





1 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
2 chief. The Dene Declaration, the secretary will be  
3 responsible for securing a copy and it will be marked as  
4 an exhibit. The secretary also will be responsible for  
5 securing a copy of the minister's statement, It will be  
6 marked, and Chief Antoine's statement will be marked as  
7 an exhibit too.

8 (DENE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE MARKED EXHIBIT C-207)  
9 (MINISTER'S SPEECH, SEPT. 10, 1975 MARKED EXHIBIT C208)  
10 (STATEMENT BY CHIEF J. ANTOINE MARKED EXHIBIT. C-209)

11 THE WITNESS: That is all I  
12 have to say, so thank you. Mussi.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
14 chief.

15 (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, anyone  
17 who wishes to speak should feel free to step forward and  
18 say -- you should feel free to say what you wish. Could  
19 we have the lady's name please?

20  
21 MRS. CECILIA SALE sworn:  
22 BETTY MENICOICHE, reads brief  
23 MISS MENICOICHE It's Cecilia  
24 Sale.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: And you're  
26 going to read the statement that the witness --

27 MISS MENICOICHE: It's hers,  
28 just translate it.

29 THE COMMISSIONER: I see. Well  
30 go ahead then.

1 THE INTERPRETER: It is hard  
2 for me to talk among a lot of people. It is like me  
3 becoming stupid, not smart. Here in my house there is no  
4 one to talk on our behalf so what I have to say for my  
5 house it is as is and correct for me to talk. Back in  
6 the old days of the past, that summer of the signing of  
7 the treaty, the summer money was first given us, I  
8 married the summer before and the next year after the  
9 spring breakup my son was born, 21/2 months after that  
10 they said, "Let the people receive money."

11 My son that was born got \$5, I  
12 got money too, and his father too. After that they said,  
13 "The land is all yours and you can do all that you want  
14 on it. All the animals from which you make a living, you  
15 can do what you want with it."

16 So they said, "Yes" and "thank  
17 you,"

18 Move here, they ask people for  
19 five years, so we moved and they said, "It will be really  
20 good for you. The land is dry and high, and it will be  
21 good, and the old place is not good to live."

22 Five years they asked us to  
23 move. Then they kept repeating, "Meeting, meeting." As  
24 the result of going to meeting, waiting for meetings,  
25 people left their dogs, letting them go for fear of  
26 missing a meeting. Dogs are used to go to fish nets,  
27 fishing at distant places SO we looked after our dogs  
28 well. So now there is no food for our mouth and the dogs  
29 because we are too busy waiting on meetings, people  
30 waiting for meetings left all the ways of making

1 | a living, snaring, fishing and trapping and hunting.  
2 | Trapping too is left alone because there may be a  
3 | meeting. They don't want to set traps because they fear  
4 | missing a meeting, waiting for meeting so we end up doing  
5 | nothing, not trying to earn a living from the land. So  
6 | we are hungry and thin.

7 |    One wants to eat but worried  
8 | about going to meeting, so one doesn't cook. What is  
9 | there to cook when no one has hunted or fished? Can't  
10 | go to the store and buy food either because there is no  
11 | money for that. Old Age Pension cheque, the old people  
12 | pay the bills and what little is left they, buy food to  
13 | eat. This is why the old women are little more fat than  
14 | others. If there are skinny old women, it is because  
15 | they are ill. Again, making bosses, making chiefs,  
16 | making bosses. How many has been made, making boss, one  
17 | that is boss over us? Young ones are taught the white  
18 | way and they are good for writing what the old people  
19 | say. Old men and women with old ways should have young  
20 | people write it down for them. It is more like that who  
21 | wrote this for me. Is it right for you or is it not  
22 | right for you? You can ask me, is it not the right  
23 | thing to do?

24 |    After the treaty there was a  
25 | feast and drum dance. That same summer people became  
26 | ill with colds and died. By the fall time there were  
27 | very few people left, and people regretted loss of  
28 | family and relatives. People who remember is me,  
29 | Jessie, Marie, Phillip Moses and wife, and old Yendo  
30 | and wife, and Jean Boots. Yendo was speaking and

1 | signed for us. Yendo was made the first boss, chief with  
2 | the signing of the treaty and Liza, his wife, was made  
3 | the chief's wife. This story is what I know.

4 | Pipeline to be laid, it was not  
5 | known about in those days. Today that we are meeting  
6 | about the pipeline, that pipeline shouldn't be built.  
7 | They keep us well, but that pipeline which we don't know  
8 | shouldn't be here because now I am alive, and if they put  
9 | a pipeline, it may be the end of me, The LO pipeline is  
10 | dangerous. I might mistake the buried pipe for a log  
11 | with earth over it and then chop at it and it might  
12 | explode in my face. I do not understand the ways of the  
13 | white, so I don't understand the pipe.

14 | Even my boys here in my house  
15 | working with chain saw cutting wood outside frightens me.  
16 | I scream and tell them to leave it alone, it might  
17 | explode.

18 | Myself, I have three sons. Two  
19 | are working. One is down river to pick up some people,  
20 | and one daughter, who is now washing my ceiling. So this  
21 | meeting there is not going to be many from my house who  
22 | is going to it. So this is my story and what I have to  
23 | say.

24 | Women give birth to men. What  
25 | I have said I want it to be heard and it is good. So  
26 | whatever a women says is not for bad reasons but to  
27 | ensure that it is good for our survival in the future.  
28 | Even you would not be here and alive today if it was not  
29 | for a woman.

30 | (APPLAUSE) Then it is signed.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: I  
2 appreciated hearing your statement.  
3 MISS MENICOCHÉ: She says now  
4 she can go home and eat.  
5 THE COMMISSIONER: Can her  
6 statement be marked then?  
7 (SUBMISSION BY CECILIA SALE MARKED EXHIBIT C-210)  
8 INTERPRETER HARDISTY; She's  
9 saying take good care of that statement there. If it  
10 wasn't for me and your mother, you know, you wouldn't be  
11 here and talking to each other.  
12 THE COMMISSIONER: I won't  
13 forget that.  
14 (WITNESS ASIDE)  
15  
16 CHIEF HARDISTY: What I just  
17 said is you are here to listen to them so I try to  
18 encourage them to speak.  
19 THE COMMISSIONER: Fine. The  
20 witness's name?  
21 THE INTERPRETER: This is  
22 Andrew Root.  
23  
24 ANDREW ROOT sworn:  
25 THE COMMISSIONER: Go ahead,  
26 sir.  
27 THE INTERPRETER: He's very  
28 pleased to hear what the Chief and the Council had to  
29 say, and he says he really appreciated what they said.  
30 He had his mind on it and he's very glad to hear them



1 CHIEF HARDISTY: Could one of  
2 you girls come up?

3 THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe we  
4 could take a five-minute break and they could come up  
5 together after that, would that be all right, do you  
6 think?

7 CHIEF HARDISTY: Yes, O.K.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: We'll stop  
9 for five minutes and maybe the students would like to  
10 cone up here while we're stopped and then we'll start  
11 again in about five minutes. So we'll just take a little  
12 break now for about five minutes.

13 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

14 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
16 gentlemen, we'll come to order again, and I understand  
17 some of the students who have come home from Fort Simpson  
18 are ready with their statement. So would you swear in  
19 the first witness, please?

20

21 MISS VIOLET HARDISTY, sworn:

22 THE WITNESS: My name is Violet  
23 Hardisty. I live here in Fort Wrigley, and I've stayed  
24 here for at least 15 years.

25 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,  
26 Maybe you'd just go a little bit slower and maybe if we  
27 all just try to listen then I'll be able to hear and so  
28 will you. So you just go ahead.

29 THE WITNESS: My name is Violet  
30 Hardisty, I live here in Fort Wrigley, and I've stayed



1 | here for at least 15 years. I am going to school in Fort  
2 | Simpson, and I come home here to Fort Wrigley to make a  
3 | speech about the pipeline. I don't like the idea because  
4 | it can cause a lot of trouble, like a for fire, and what  
5 | if it explode, what would happen then?

6 |                               Beside, the animal mean a lot  
7 | to the Dene people. Why is it important? For the fur and  
8 | -- beside, the animal mean a lot to the Dene people. Why  
9 | is it important? For the furs and meat.

10 |

11 |

12 |                               I think the Dene people should  
13 | own their land because they live on it longer than the  
14 | white. How would the whites like it if the Dene people  
15 | boss them around? I don't think they'd like it, and  
16 | that's the way it is with the Dene people, Besides, why  
17 | do the whites boss the Dene people around and want to  
18 | build pipeline and highway on their land?

19 |                               In the first place, why did the  
20 | whites come

21 |                               THE COMMISSIONER: Can you just  
22 | slow down a little bit? Carry on, I'm listening, but --

23 |                               THE WITNESS : Why did the  
24 | white come down to the Dene people's land and try to take  
25 | over? Like they think they can do anything with it, like  
26 | putting a pipeline through; but that's not what we Dene  
27 | people think. I think the Dene people should do what  
28 | they want with their land, not the whites telling them  
29 | what to do with it. Beside, even if they put the pipe-  
30 | line through, what would the Dene people get out of it?

1 | Nothing. That's what we Dene people usually get.

2 | That's all I have to say.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
4 | very much. We would like to keep your written statement  
5 | and have it marked as an exhibit, if you would let us  
6 | have it.

7 | (SUBMISSION BY VIOLET HARDISTY MARKED EXHIBIT C-211)

8 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Would you  
10 | swear in the next witness, please?

11 |

12 | MISS RUBY MOSES sworn:

13 | THE WITNESS: My name is Ruby  
14 | Moses. I come from Fort Wrigley. I'm attending school  
15 | in Fort Simpson and I come here to say something about  
16 | the pipeline and highway.

17 | What I have to say is that I  
18 | don't like the idea of putting a pipeline through  
19 | Mackenzie Delta, that if there is a bad storm and, it  
20 | hits the surface of the ground and the pipeline explodes,  
21 | it will cause a lot of trouble. Beside, the pipeline  
22 | means nothing to the Dene people. Also we have to settle  
23 | the land claims and see who really own the land. The way  
24 | I see it is that the pipeline would destroy a lot of  
25 | people. And also lot of people are suffering from the  
26 | changes, and the people that are suffering are the Dene.  
27 | Another thing, I heard some of the Dene people disapprove  
28 | of having the pipeline. Beside, I heard that the Dene  
29 | people complain about why the white people tell the Dene  
30 | to do this and that.

1 Another thing I have in mind is  
2 why there have to be a highway, because it will cause  
3 more trouble for the Dene people and their traps on their  
4 land. Think about that. That's all I have to says

5 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
6 very much. We would like to have your statement to be  
7 marked as an exhibit after it's been translated,  
8 (SUBMISSION BY RUBY MOSES MARKED EXHIBIT C-212)

9 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
10 again.

11 (WITNESS ASIDE)

12 THE INTERPRETER: Phillip Moses  
13 say he wants to make a little speech.

14  
15 PHILLIP MOSES sworn:

16 THE INTERPRETER: He says he  
17 didn't have any children when the money for the treaty  
18 was paid out and he says he had a father, but he said his  
19 father never brought him up. His father died of  
20 starvation, and he says he's never been brought up with  
21 ration or assistance.

22 He says they were doing pretty  
23 good in hunting and trapping since he was old enough, but  
24 he says this old guy that paid out treaty, he says for  
25 him to think about it now he gave us all promises, you  
26 know, but they were all lies.

27 He says his step-father was the  
28 head man, and his old man refused, told the people not to  
29 take the money, but eventually they took it and I guess  
30 the bishop or somebody and inspector with the

1 | treaty party. He says the old man put up a good defence  
2 | for his people, you know, not to take the money, but  
3 | promises were made to the old man that they will get a  
4 | boatload of food every summer and the old man says it  
5 | wasn't particular to take his word, but they kept after  
6 | him, you know, but I don't know who the treaty party -- I  
7 | guess it was Conroy or somebody, what the old man is  
8 | saying now is that promises were made that they would be  
9 | getting a boatload of food every summer and as long as  
10 | the sun rises and sets in the west and as long as the  
11 | river doesn't flow backwards well -- Well, what is a  
12 | promise, he says.

13 | He says that all the head men,  
14 | they give him metal, you know, and they keep that metal  
15 | and the head man that gets that metal, well anything he  
16 | orders, well he's supposed to get it; and as long as that  
17 | metal is there well -- until the end of the world.  
18 | That's the end of it, you know.

19 | He says that they were talking  
20 | something or other about reserve but the old man, he says  
21 | the old man won't take the money, but promise was made  
22 | right away, "You can live on the land, hunt on it and  
23 | fish on it."

24 | But now, he says, we hear that  
25 | the Dene people, the whites they want to put them on  
26 | reserves. He says beside that, he says you can do  
27 | whatever you like, fishing and hunting, and he says  
28 | nobody is going to bother you about it. The old man, he  
29 | says his old step-father took the money but everything is  
30 | changed now, he says.

1 He says I do as much as I can  
2 on the Old Age Pension from the government but he says he  
3 doesn't like paying light bills out of that. 41 He  
4 thinks he should get his light bills free. After all, he  
5 says oil companies destroyed our land already, he says,  
6 they are supposed to pay for our light bills, for  
7 destroying our land.

8 CHIEF HARDISTY: Mr. Berger,  
9 what I asked him like, he said this is all he has for on  
10 his statement, but what I asked him is what he thinks  
11 about the pipeline.

12 THE INTERPRETER: He says he  
13 doesn't want to no pipeline. It will destroy a lot of  
14 things.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Well, thank  
16 you very much, Mr. Moses.

17 THE INTERPRETER: He says one  
18 thing he doesn't like is paying his light bill out of his  
19 Old Age Pension cheque because he doesn't think that's  
20 right.

21 (WITNESS ASIDE)

22 MISS MARTHA NAYALLY sworn:

23 THE WITNESS: My name is Martha  
24 Nayally, and I am going to school in Fort Simpson. I am  
25 here to talk about what I think about the pipeline and  
26 highway. What I think about the pipeline and highway is  
27 that it will destroy the land and animals. What will  
28 happen to the land-if anything happens to the pipeline?  
29 Most people don't understand really what will happen to  
30 their land if the pipeline and the highway comes

1 | through. They only know that the pipe will bring gas to  
2 | the south. The pipeline means nothing to the Dene people  
3 | but it means a lot to the government and the white  
4 | people. They have to settle our land claims to see who  
5 | really owns the land, and the way I see it is that the  
6 | pipeline and the highway will disturb our people.

7 | I also think that a lot of  
8 | people are suffering from the changes, and the people  
9 | that are suffering are the Dene people, If the pipeline  
10 | and the highway does come through here, the white people  
11 | - might take over Wrigley just like other places and I'm  
12 | sure that the people wouldn't want that to happen

13 | Besides, why do white people  
14 | want to take over the Dene people's land? They only want  
15 | to get their jobs and money and go back to the south.  
16 | The pipeline companies only think about themselves and  
17 | the white people. They don't care what will happen to  
18 | the Dene people of the north.

19 | That's all I have to say about  
20 | the pipeline.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
22 | very much. We would like to keep your statement and have  
23 | it marked as an exhibit, if we may.

24 | (SUBMISSION BY MARTHA NAYALLY MARKED EXHIBIT C-213)

25 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

26 |

27 | MISS GRACE NAYALLY sworn:

28 | THE WITNESS: My name is Grace  
29 | Nayally. I have been living here in Wrigley for the past  
30 | years. I am now going to school in Fort Simpson. I

1 have come down here to say a few words about the pipeline  
2 and the people. Ever since the whites start coming into  
3 the north, the Dene culture has changed a lot. Dene people  
4 start going out hunting, they hardly go out hunting any  
5 more since the white came around and set up camp and so on.  
6 The noise scare away the wild animals. I also don't like a  
7 pipeline. Dene will get nothing out of it. Beside, the  
8 pipeline isn't needed right away.

9 That's all I have to say.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you  
11 very much. We'd like to have your statement too, if we  
12 may, after it has been translated.

13 (SUBMISSION BY GRACE NAYALLY MARKED EXHIBIT C-214)

14 (WITNESS ASIDE)

15 MISS BERNICE MOSES sworn:

16 THE WITNESS: My name is  
17 Bernice Moses. I am going to school in Fort Simpson. I  
18 would like to say about the pipeline and the highway, Mr.  
19 Berger, I am just like the other Dene people. I don't  
20 want the pipeline --

21 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,  
22 just slow down a bit and just move a little closer to  
23 that microphone. Do you mind starting again? I just  
24 didn't quite hear you. Forgive me.

25 THE WITNESS: My name is  
26 Bernice Moses, I am going to school in Fort Simpson, I  
27 would like to say about the pipeline and the highway, Mr.  
28 Berger. I am just like the other Dene people. I don't  
29 want the pipeline to go through because it will surely  
30 destroy things like land that my people depend on.

1   The highway will only mean  
2 development in Wrigley. I'm sure my people don't like  
3 the idea of the highway. These two, the pipeline and  
4 highway, are sure to destroy the old ways of life.

5   Mr. Berger, I sure hope you  
6 and other pipeline people in this room will try and  
7 understand my people and myself. That's all I have to  
8 say about the pipeline. Thank you.

9   THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.  
10 That statement will be marked as an exhibit, too.

11 (SUBMISSION BY BERNICE MOSES MARKED EXHIBIT C-215)

12   (WITNESS ASIDE)

13  
14   MISS PHOEBE NAHANNI resumed:

15   THE WITNESS: The map you see  
16 on the wall is a scale of one inch to four miles. It  
17 represents trappers from Fort Wrigley. It shows the  
18 routes that they travelled, the fur-bearing animals they  
19 trapped and the large mammals that they hunted. It shows  
20 the permanent and the temporary camps. I can get up and  
21 show the locations in a few minutes.

22   Rufus Moses did the research  
23 here in Wrigley, and he correlated that map there. He  
24 interviewed men but men was the 30% sample for Wrigley,  
25 and so in regards to that the maps, the map is  
26 incomplete. It doesn't show a lot of the traplines  
27 branching out from the main travel routes and trapline  
28 routes.

29   Wrigley is right here and the  
30 River Between Two Mountains, the camp where the Yendi



1 Boys -- Brothers have their permanent camp. Simpson is  
2 over here.

3 THE COMMISSIONER: What do the  
4 red marks represent?

5 A The red marks have a code  
6 written on them and the solid circles are the permanent  
7 sites where people live. The brackets around these  
8 codes indicate that it used to be used but not any more.  
9 The triangles, the open triangles show the temporary  
10 camps, in other words people camp in tents or camp  
11 outdoors. The solid triangles show that it's still  
12 being used, and the letters indicate the fur-bearing  
13 animals and the large mammals. There are different  
14 codes here, all circles. The smallest circle represents  
15 25% or less, which would be about two or less, two or  
16 one people travelling on the smaller circle. On the  
17 circles that are chained, it shows between to 50%, which  
18 would be about two to six people; and the circles with  
19 the lines running through them show 50% or more, or six  
20 to men use it. It indicates the routes that are used  
21 the most, but it doesn't show when they use it. So this  
22 map is incomplete. It doesn't show when; it represents  
23 only living people and people who live today, and it  
24 shows the history of where they travelled. Rufus would  
25 be in more of a position or the chief would be in more  
26 of a position to say how many people still trap in this  
27 community.

28 Towards this side is the  
29 Mackenzie Mountains, Wrigley being here. Well, there's a  
30 chain of mountains here, and then there's the gradual

1 -- the hills and then eventually the mountains. This is  
2 Keller Lake. This is the Great Bear Lake, and Fort  
3 Franklin, Fort Norman, Norman Wells, and this is the Keel  
4 River, this is the Redstone, this is the North Nahanni,  
5 and like I said before this is the River Between Two  
6 Mountains, This represents the new site of Wrigley. I  
7 think that's about it.

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
9 (WITNESS ASIDE)

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Could we  
11 have this gentleman's name first, please?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Frank  
13 Horesay.

14 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.  
15 FRANK HORESAY, sworn:

16 THE INTERPRETER: They are  
17 talking about the pipeline here but he says he doesn't  
18 care much about it He says he doesn't like to see it  
19 running across the Mackenzie River.

20 He says running it in the  
21 valley he says I don't think much damage will come to it,  
22 but he says to cross the Mackenzie River, he says it's  
23 pretty risky. He says there's nothing going to get into  
24 the pipeline running on the mainland, but he says  
25 crossing the Mackenzie River he says the breakup of ice,  
26 he says I don't think the metal is going to hold that ice  
27 back, it gets pretty rough sometimes.

28 He says this Mackenzie River  
29 ice, he says there's hardly anything to stop it from  
30 moving. He says that's what we should all think about.



1 SARAH HORESAY sworn:  
2 THE WITNESS: I'm Sarah Horesay  
3 from Fort Wrigley. I have been there around --  
4 THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe you'd  
5 just start over again and maybe we could just concentrate  
6 on what this witness is saying. Go ahead.  
7 THE WITNESS: I'm Sarah Horesay  
8 from Fort Wrigley. I have been around there for about --  
9 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,  
10 just go a little closer. We've got a lot of time so you  
11 just take it easy and we'll get along.  
12 THE WITNESS: O.K. I've been  
13 around and seen things that I don't approve of, like the  
14 pipeline and the highway going through. I am myself a  
15 non-student, but I learn about the old traditional ways  
16 of my people. I see and listen that my people disapprove  
17 of things that the white people are doing to our land. I  
18 hear on the radio from each community hearings the crying  
19 of the Dene people  
20 THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,  
21 I'm awfully sorry, it's my fault but my ears must be  
22 going bad, I'm just not getting this. Speak a little  
23 louder and we're all friends here so it doesn't --  
24 THE WITNESS: I hear on the  
25 radio from each community hearing the crying of the Dene  
26 people saying they don't want no pipeline, Mr. Berger, I  
27 wish you would listen to the Dene people, my people,  
28 right now, Mr. Berger, you have looked outside this  
29 afternoon and you have seen the leaves are galling,  
30 it's so beautiful and so peaceful, all the nature and

1 things. In ten years time it wouldn't be so beautiful  
2 outside, so peaceful.

3 Mr. Berger, so once again  
4 listen to my people and the point of view that my people  
5 and myself don't want the pipeline or the highway to go  
6 through.

7 That's all I have to say, thank  
8 you.

9 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
10 very much. We would like to have your statement marked  
11 as an exhibit too. Thank you very much.

12 (SUBMISSION BY SARAH HORESAY MARKED EXHIBIT C-216)

13 (WITNESS ASIDE)

14  
15 EDWARD HARDISTY, sworn:

16 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, my  
17 name is Ed Hardisty.

18 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes sir,

19 THE WITNESS: I am very well

20 pleased with the students putting up their statement  
21 and I hope you realize and think about us Dene people.  
22 For myself, the pipeline, well what we're going to  
23 benefit out of it? We heard time and again just to  
24 get my point, what benefit are we going to get out of  
25 it?

26 The jobs that the Dene people  
27 are going to get are just axe ad shovel, and I think --

28 Q Axe?

29 A Axe and shovel.

30 Q Clearing?

1 A Well, just to tell you --  
2 Q You go ahead, don't let me  
3 interrupt.  
4 A -- like in the old days  
5 you know, that's what -- one time I went to Simpson and I  
6 asked for a job, and they said, "You got a saw and  
7 hammer?"  
8 I said, "Yes." But I never got  
9 that job.  
10 That's the same thing that's  
11 going to happen to our nation. When I educated I went to  
12 school Hay River and I went to Grade 6, and now my people  
13 are crying out they don't want this, they don't want that  
14 until the land settlement is worked out, to the  
15 satisfaction of our people, the way we want it and the  
16 way we see it.  
17 The Minister was saying -- I  
18 didn't hear him on the radio but I've been the chief for  
19 quite a while and the first thing that I did was I asked  
20 old Chief Yendo if there was anything said about land.  
21 He said, "No."  
22 I asked him three times,  
23 with the same answer.  
24 But the Minister said we gave  
25 our land away, which I think is not true. I think by  
26 rights I think our people still own the land, and like  
27 I say, I'm very impressed with the students reading out  
28 their statement, and I was wondering how many other  
29 places students came up to you and spoke to you and  
30 wrote out their statement.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Quite a  
2 few.

3 THE WITNESS: To explain this.  
4 I think the Minister is barking up the wrong tree. The  
5 Indians never gave up their land. Like owning a dog, eh,  
6 you train a dog, you speak to him well, you know, even a  
7 dog can understand his master.

8 The same thing, you know, the  
9 Minister, that's what he thinks or that's the way he  
10 acts, you know. It comes in one ear and then out the  
11 other. He turns around and he is still saying we gave up  
12 our land, which we didn't.

13 Another thing, what the Indians  
14 are going to benefit out of the highway? We don't want  
15 no trucks, we don't want nothing. Just like Henry was  
16 mentioning a while ago, all the money that the people  
17 make goes to booze, eh. It's pretty hard to conquer  
18 that bottle. I mean people don't have to take  
19 it if they don't want to, but it's just a bad  
20 habit.

21 Another thing I'd like to say  
22 about the land is I don't want to see no pipeline, no big  
23 development until the land claim is settled. I work with  
24 the Indian Brotherhood. The Indian Brotherhood means me,  
25 our people, not our office in Yellowknife

26 I was in Liard last winter and  
27 I asked a few people how many people are working on the  
28 highway -- Pointed Mountain Pipeline. Only two I think  
29 they said. Well, there's a lot of people there, about  
30 400, over 400.

1 Q You mean at Liard?

2 A Yeah. It bothers my head,  
3 you know. I've got six boys over there, six or seven.  
4 What they're going to benefit out of that pipeline if it  
5 goes through?

6 Education, I think they should  
7 be taught, like Henry was saying, more about bush life,  
8 trapping and how to survive in the bush. I had my 15-  
9 year-old boy, George, going to school last winter. He  
10 got kicked out twice so it makes you wonder, why go back?  
11 So I put him into the bush, I told him to take the  
12 teacher out this spring, but he won't.

13 Q Sorry, I missed that.

14 A I told my boy, George, to  
15 take the teacher out in the bush and take one week's  
16 supply each and see who comes back. George will get  
17 back, but not the teacher. That's how smart I teach him.  
18 I send him out, I send him out.

19 A lot of children, you know,  
20 they get confused about schooling. Henry mentioned here,  
21 I think, that's pretty straight, get a teacher either  
22 teach them out here what's been done and go around with  
23 the people and go back and then teach the children. You  
24 can't teach a northern child to southern ways, eh. Big  
25 difference.

26 That's what I was thinking  
27 about, you know, but especially boys, you know, they want  
28 to get out and see what they can do in the bush, you  
29 know; and for the girls, well, tan moose hide and all  
30 this sort of stuff, you know. You don't see any of



1 | that now -- only old ladies, you know.

2 |                           Q     Tanning moose hide?

3 |                           A     Yes, Not only for the boys  
4 | but girls too, you know, they should be taught how to  
5 | tart moose hide or sew moccasins.

6 |                           I give somebody else a chance  
7 | to talk, otherwise I would be talking here till sunrise.

8 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I'd be  
9 | willing to listen until sunrise. Thank you very much.

10 |                           (WITNESS ASIDE)

11 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Maybe we  
12 | will just take a minute break and those of you who want  
13 | to speak can maybe collect your thoughts and think about  
14 | what you are going to say.

15 |                           CHIEF HARDISTY: Can we just  
16 | hang on or a while?

17 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Well we need to change a tape.

18 |                           CHIEF HARDISTY: Well she can change it.

19 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED FOR FEW MINUTES)

20 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

21 |                           CHIEF HARDISTY: What I just  
22 | said was this, that I asked the people if they want to  
23 | continue tomorrow and they agreed, as I realized that  
24 | most of the people have went home and I state to you or  
25 | Michael before, that the people here are not used to,  
26 | especially the older people, they're not used to staying  
27 | up that long.

28 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: Neither am I.

29 |                           CHIEF HARDISTY: So --

30 |                           THE COMMISSIONER: That's all

1 | right.

2 | CHIEF HARDISTY: So maybe we  
3 | car continue tomorrow and maybe we'll get more delegates  
4 | come up and speak.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I take  
6 | it you're all agreed that you would like to continue  
7 | tomorrow, so we'll come back here at two o'clock tomorrow  
8 | afternoon and hear from those of you who still wish to  
9 | say something at the hearing.

10 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO SEPTEMBER 11, 1975)

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1 | Wrigley, N.W.T.

2 | September 11, 1975

3 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
5 | gentlemen, I think we'll call the meeting to order. Just  
6 | give everybody a chance to take a chair.

7 | I think Chief Hardisty is going  
8 | to be the interpreter tonight but I'd like to just start,  
9 | chief, by explaining for the record where we went today.  
10 | The Inquiry and representatives of the participants,  
11 | accompanied by Chief Hardisty and Chief Antoine, paid a  
12 | visit to the Yendi Brothers camp at the River Between Two  
13 | Mountains, and the Boots Brothers camp at Willow Lake  
14 | River. We also visited Hire North Camp No. and examined  
15 | the miles of construction that Hire North has undertaken  
16 | on the Mackenzie Highway, and visited two borrow  
17 | locations as well. That's why we're late. I apologize  
18 | for not being able to begin at two this afternoon as we  
19 | had intended.

20 | Anyone who wishes to speak  
21 | tonight may now do so.

22 | (CHIEF HENRY HARDISTY ACTS AS INTERPRETER)

23 |

24 | FATHER LOUSSON sworn:

25 | THE WITNESS: I didn't want to  
26 | talk because yesterday speaker after speaker told the  
27 | man about the pipeline and the highway, and I thought  
28 | that my word would be not too necessary. But today  
29 | visiting the people, they call on me, they wanted to  
30 | know what I thought about it, two, three cases

1 | at least. So I am cornered and I'm obliged to talk.

2 |   My name is Father Lousson, and  
3 | I have been in the north for years, and I have been an  
4 | average of seven years in the settlements in this area, :  
5 | that is Simpson, seven years average, you know? Simpson,  
6 | Providence, Hay River, Liard, and I have visited Wrigley  
7 | from '63 to '69.

8 |   First my position is very  
9 | clear. Of course I adopt the position of the Bishops of  
10 | Canada 100%. About ten days ago the Bishops of Canada,  
11 | 79 of them, there were 79 of them in 1974, wrote a  
12 | statement about the development of the north. I read it  
13 | three times and they are very clear about three points  
14 | that are related to the native population.

15 |   The first one is this. A land  
16 | claim settlement should take place before any major  
17 | development in the north.

18 |   THE INTERPRETER: Could you  
19 | hang on, father? Okay.

20 |   THE WITNESS: The second point  
21 | is that the native people should be consulted before any  
22 | major development take place.

23 |   Second point of the bishops is  
24 | that the native people should be consulted before any  
25 | development take place.

26 |   The third point is that the  
27 | natives should be involved in such development to avoid  
28 | that they be crushed by development.

29 |   There are of course many other  
30 | points, but these are the main ones, you know, that are

1 | directly concerning the native people.

2 |                                   I didn't have to wait for the  
3 | statement of the bishops to have my own opinion about it.  
4 | I got it long ago. I didn't have to wait for the bishops  
5 | to make up my mind about it. I got it long ago, that is  
6 | I knew what the bishops should say before they talk, you  
7 | know. Well no, not exactly, but --

8 |                                   This is because I think that I  
9 | have been in a good position to know about it being in  
10 | Hay River, arriving in hay River in 1952, that is five  
11 | years after the opening of the highway in Hay River. At  
12 | that time the Indian Village of Hay River was amounting  
13 | to about 150, the same as here, according to the Father  
14 | Posset's register. There were at the end of '74 152  
15 | natives in Wrigley, and white people. These of course,  
16 | the natives include the people of the River Between Two  
17 | Mountains and Willow River, but not the whites that were  
18 | working on the road. But they include the whites that  
19 | work on the airport here, and in the town here, of them.

20 |                                   In Hay River it was about  
21 | exactly the same.

22 |                                   THE COMMISSIONER: In '52?

23 |                                   THE WITNESS: In '52, yes, just  
24 | a difference of a few, not much, and I had a chance to  
25 | come back to Ha River for six months in '70, in 1970,1  
26 | and again for two years, a little over two years in '72,  
27 | and I could see the change, you know. Even from '52 to  
28 | '58, I could see the harm done to the native population.  
29 | From year to year, you know, I have been in Hay River  
30 | '52 to '58 and again six months in '70, and again from

1 '72 to '75, which gave me the time to get an overview of  
2 the changes, social changes. Even though they had  
3 chances to get some jobs in the old and new town, they  
4 are certainly much poorer today than they were in '52,  
5 Few have been able to adapt to the development, but very  
6 few. A few are better off, a very few, than they were at  
7 that time.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Could you rephrase that?

9 THE WITNESS: Today I said they  
10 are poorer, most of them. The majority, the great  
11 majority are poorer today than they were in '52, poorer,  
12 I mean for anything -- kickers, boats, and so on. A few  
13 have been able to be better off because they got skidoos,  
14 boats, a few, very few, very few.

15 From year to year there were  
16 less people going trapping into the hush or hunting, till  
17 last year there were about five of them going to trap,  
18 and most of them, the huge majority were on welfare. So  
19 they were certainly not ready to development, even though  
20 development in that area was slow because it was only the  
21 highway for the fishing, and the white people you don't  
22 have transportation. They were not ready in 1952 for the  
23 development, for the opening of the road.

24 That's why I understood and I  
25 fully back what Chief Antoine said in Simpson, stating  
26 strongly that they were not ready yet for the pipeline,  
27 and I agree with him 100%. I am convinced therefore that  
28 the pipeline would almost certainly harm a lot a town  
29 like Simpson, I mean the native population which is the  
30 majority at Simpson. They will be hurt terribly by the

1 pipelines, no doubt about it. I believe that the road,  
2 the opening of the road in this area would hurt a lot  
3 of the people up here. That's why I didn't say  
4 anything,; I heard yesterday speaker after speaker,  
5 "We don't want a pipeline, we don't want the highway  
6 yet," so I said, "No use for me to talk because I agree  
7 with them, you know."

8 But certainly the native people  
9 have to try to be ready for and take part in some  
10 development later on when they think they are ready. The  
11 main way for you certainly to stay together, all the  
12 tribes together, united, for you and your chiefs -- they  
13 got good luck, they got a good chief, I appreciate that  
14 chief very much and they are lucky.

15 He is not alone, but there is  
16 not enough off his character, because split among  
17 themselves, scattered, well it is hopeless.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Would you go  
19 over that again?

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, maybe  
21 you should for me, too, father. Repeat that part if you  
22 wouldn't mind.

23 THE WITNESS: I said the chief  
24 was very good.

25 Q Chief Sonfrere?

26 A Chief Sonfrere, yes,  
27 and a few others, especially Ted Boggin, but especially  
28 Chief Sonfrere, who tries to hold the Band together and  
29 bring the people back on the reserve. I hope he  
30 succeeds.

1 But if they don't want to be  
2 united, well it is hopeless in a place like Hay River,  
3 hopeless. There is plenty of hope because they are  
4 during the past few years the native people can talk for  
5 themselves, that's why I didn't want to say something  
6 too.

7 Now I said there are people,  
8 you know, that can talk among the natives, they can talk  
9 for themselves, be understood. That is why there is  
10 plenty of hope for them.

11 Those are the main things I had  
12 to say, Mr. Justice Berger. Thank you.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
14 Father Lousson.

15 (WITNESS ASIDE)

16 ED NAYALLY sworn:

17 INTERPRETER: My name is Ed  
18 Nayally. I am a Dene. I never was taught in schools or  
19 the southern way of living life. I was taught by my  
20 parents to live in the bush. This is why I'd like to say  
21 a few words to you.

22 He says I remember his father  
23 was a great hunter. There was a lot of animals roam in  
24 the country where his father hunt, and he remembers.  
25 They leave in the fall, they leave the settlement, they  
26 go out in the bush and stayed in the bush all year.  
27 There's a lot of animals they can hunt and trap, and in  
28 the summer they come into the settlement to live and be  
29 among the people for the summertime. They had never  
30 seen the animal disappearing. There was always



1 | something for them to kill to eat, to live by, and he  
2 | says he remembers he used to travel from Fort Norman to  
3 | Blackwater where their camp was. There was a lot of  
4 | animals they can kill on the way back to their camp  
5 | during the fall.

6 |                                 Ever since the developer from  
7 | south come in in the north, the animals are beginning to  
8 | decreasing very slowly. He remembers at the beginning of  
9 | the southern people coming up into the north, they have  
10 | this so-called game warden. Their livelihood were  
11 | closed, they began to protect the animals and the people  
12 | had very hard time to live. Not the way they are used to  
13 | live.

14 |                                 This is the way we've been  
15 | treated by the government, and ever since the C.N, opened  
16 | their line through our land here, the animal beginning to  
17 | decrease more, and he says back in those days right at  
18 | this settlement there used to be a lot of moose in this  
19 | area. They used to hunt by the air strip and kill  
20 | animals, and he compares at the present time this summer  
21 | they went hunting. They went up miles up the Redstone  
22 | River just to kill a caribou and one moose. He heard a  
23 | lot of people say they're opposing the highway and the  
24 | pipeline because they know what's happening to them, and  
25 | I for myself, I know what's happening to me. That's why  
26 | I myself oppose the highway too, the highway and the  
27 | pipeline.

28 |                                 I remember that when they were  
29 | talking about highway he thought it was good for him  
30 | then, but today he see what's happening to the Dene

1 | people in Fort Simpson and at the present time he does  
2 | not like to see the highway end in Wrigley. This is why  
3 | I don't like to see the highway come into Fort Wrigley,  
4 | The pipeline, too.

5 |                                   He has heard a lot of people  
6 | saying that if this pipeline is buried in our land, they  
7 | are going to destroy a lot of our land and also for all  
8 | his life he has seen and been in the bush, that a lot of  
9 | the overflow that he has seen, they have cracked during  
10 | the winter. If this ever happens, so happened that they  
11 | have a highway -- I mean a pipeline, then if this  
12 | overflow cracks, I'm sure it will crack the pipeline too,  
13 | and if the oil or gas started floating down towards the  
14 | Mackenzie, it's going to destroy a lot of fishes and  
15 | other wildlife.

16 |                                   He remembers his father saying  
17 | to him that he hunts and the animals, they hear things,  
18 | if an animal approaching or a human being approaching,  
19 | he's referring to the moose, and he also has sense to  
20 | smell what kind of animal is approaching, or a human  
21 | being is approaching. He compares that his father hunts  
22 | and he gets very close to the animal because he's adapted  
23 | to hunt these animals and he was taught by his father's  
24 | father, and he gets very close to it, he cracks a twig  
25 | and the animals gets up because he hears that there's  
26 | someone really close.

27 |                                   If this highway or the pipeline  
28 | is pushing through our land, the animal will move out of  
29 | their way, and I'm pretty sure they will move far from  
30 | our community and far from our river, along this

1 | river which we hunt.

2 | I've been sitting here  
3 | yesterday and I listened to the people what they're  
4 | saying about the pipeline, the way they oppose it. He  
5 | was saying that I just sit here, I wasn't thinking about  
6 | it, but I think about it. I thought of it all night, he  
7 | says, that I personally agreed 100% with what the people  
8 | are saying to you last night. This is all I wanted to  
9 | tell you and this is how I think about the pipeline.

10 | Thank you.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,  
12 | Mr. Nayally.

13 | (WITNESS ASIDE)

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: Does anybody  
15 | else wish to speak?

16 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Mr. Berger, I  
17 | think we should take a five minute break.

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: O.K.

19 | CHIEF HARDISTY: I think  
20 | everybody appears to go out, so people are leaving.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: O.K., we'll  
22 | take a five-minute break then.

23 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

24 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

25 | THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and  
26 | gentlemen, maybe we should open the hearing again now and  
27 | just let any of you who still wish to say something go  
28 | ahead and say it now. We've got the whole evening.

29 | CHIEF HARDISTY: Mr. Berger,  
30 | I've got the slightest idea that this is all the

1 delegates you're going to have tonight, but before the  
2 closing of this hearing I would like to say a few things  
3 concerning the trips we made today.

4

5 CHIEF HENRY HARDISTY resumed:

6 THE WITNESS: Mr. Berger, you  
7 have seen the river which we've flown today to River  
8 Between and the Hire North Camp and the Boots Camp at  
9 Willow Lake River. There's a number of things that I  
10 seen today at the Hire North which I did not like a bit.  
11 As you and I had seen the bridge that crosses the River  
12 Between, the logs they used and you and I know what logs  
13 I'm talking about. The kind of logs they used is the  
14 kind of logs we have built the co-op and this Community  
15 Hall, the same type of logs. These logs, they got  
16 them from Fort Simpson. These logs could be cut  
17 here in Wrigley. I don't know why they got them from  
18 Simpson.

19 The sawmill in Simpson has been  
20 run by monla, and you know what the expression - "monla"  
21 is. At the Hire North, concerning these logs when I got  
22 back from our trip I went to the co-op manager, I asked  
23 him has he been asked for these logs?

24 He said he was asked from the  
25 government from down south -- this was in August and they  
26 want 1,000 logs within ten days, and he says by that time  
27 he knew that they had asked Simpson already and they  
28 already had bought the logs, but in order to protect  
29 themselves they asked Wrigley, and they gave them  
30 only ten days to cut that much, and you and I know

1 | that 1,000 logs can't be cut in ten days.

2 |                                 Like I said yesterday in my  
3 | statement that I should just as soon the highway end at  
4 | River Between and you can see why I said that, they just  
5 | cross, they just make the bridge across the River Between  
6 | in order to work on this side of the river. I again  
7 | would like to say and say again that I totally oppose  
8 | that the highway come into Fort Wrigley.

9 |                                 You have seen for yourself the  
10 | kind of equipment they use, and the damage they are doing  
11 | to our hunting grounds, The Hire North -- I believe that  
12 | camp is for a training section, to train the northern and  
13 | native people. What I see out there today, I see one to  
14 | five, or one to four people who are totally native people  
15 | working on these equipment. The rest were monla. This  
16 | is the kind of thing they are doing to us, as you can  
17 | see. They're using the Dene people as a bait. They're  
18 | using us as a bait so they can get their pocket money.  
19 | This is the way the Dene people being used by the  
20 | southern or the developers, use us to give us an odd job  
21 | and saying that, "We're doing good for the northern  
22 | people, especially the Dene." But I do not see that. I  
23 | see quite a number of people, Dene, employed in Hire  
24 | North, but as you can see, on our way out to the  
25 | construction site along the road you see those boys are  
26 | cutting down the leaners. This is the kind of jobs that  
27 | they offer the Dene.

28 |                                 THE COMMISSIONER: Brushing?

29 |                                 A       Right. This is the kind  
30 | of job they offer us. Like I said, they use us like bait

1 | to work. That's the kind of work they give us, and here  
2 | on the other hand for their own good and their office  
3 | work, to protect themselves, that they're training the  
4 | northerners and the Dene.

5 |                                 We also went to the Willow Lake  
6 | River Camp and you heard what Mr. George Boots had said  
7 | to you. There's a number of things that happening to  
8 | him, especially concerning his camp, which I do not like.  
9 | He pointed out to you that ten or nine days ago  
10 | helicopter came into their camp and these people came  
11 | out, they had a map with them, and they do not have  
12 | interpreter for anyone that can't translate 131, or never  
13 | seen Dene, straight monla, and pointed out to them on the  
14 | map that--showing to them that where the pipeline is  
15 | going to cross the Will Lake River. I also stated that I  
16 | didn't know which company it was, the Foothill or Gas  
17 | Arctic.

18 |                                 George Boots pointed, out to  
19 | you clearly that he did not understand what they were  
20 | saying but he heard -- he understood the pipeline and  
21 | they pointed out to him where it crosses the river, and  
22 | he also says they were asked what they think about the  
23 | pipeline. George pointed out to you today that he  
24 | opposed the pipeline and by rights that they should ask  
25 | the people in Wrigley, especially the chief who  
26 | represents them.

27 |                                 I strongly suggest in the  
28 | future that the camp at River Between, that's the Yendi  
29 | Boys, and the people in Willow Lake River, that I don't  
30 | want to see that happen again, not ever. If they want to

1 | ask questions, they come down to Wrigley and ask the  
2 | chief who represents them.

3 |                                    You've seen how the two camps  
4 | are set up along the Mackenzie River. They are beautiful  
5 | camps. A number of your people have said to me it was a  
6 | beautiful spot, and the fishes they have outside, this is  
7 | the way their parents have taught them, and this is the  
8 | way they live, and I don't want that their way of living  
9 | be destroyed by the pipeline.

10 |                                   I know that if this pipeline  
11 | goes through, their way of life, it's going to totally  
12 | destroy it. George Boots pointed out to you that sever  
13 | since the opening of the C.N. line the animals had moved  
14 | away from the winter road or the -- away from the C.N.  
15 | line where the trucks were moving back and forth all year  
16 | around, and way before that, before the opening of the  
17 | C.N. line, he said he used to kill moose a mile from his  
18 | camp; but now he move back and forth up and down the  
19 | river for 50-70 miles all summer and not kill but one  
20 | moose.

21 |                                   Tonight Ed Nayally has spoken  
22 | to you. He pointed out clearly what he thinks about the  
23 | highway, and the way he opposes, the reason why he  
24 | opposes I'm sure you have heard and listened to it, and I  
25 | agreed with what he said 100%. The people have make  
26 | their statement to you, especially the students who have  
27 | came back from Simpson pointed out to you that the  
28 | changes they have seen with the highway, and they pointed  
29 | out to you strongly that they oppose the highway and the  
30 | pipeline.

1 I, as the chief who represent  
2 them, totally 100% agree with the students. I support  
3 them 1)0%. The statement they had pointed out to you  
4 that even the younger people had realized what's coming  
5 to them especially who live here, and they're comparing  
6 what's happening in Simpson and they realize what's  
7 happening over there and they don't want that to happen  
8 to their beautiful community in Wrigley.

9 This is why, like I said, I  
10 support these students 100%.

11 I also support Mr. Frank  
12 Horesay of what he said about the pipeline. It's going  
13 to cross this mighty Mackenzie twice, the first one north  
14 of us, it's going to cross there, and the next cross is  
15 south of us, and he pointed out to you clearly that the  
16 spring breakup, if ever the pipe be busted as you and I  
17 can see, the river flows from the south of us do think is  
18 going to happen to our fish or drinking water? This is  
19 why I totally agree with Frank Horesay of his statement.

20 I myself as the chief and  
21 represent the people of this community, again would like  
22 to state out to you that I do not want to see this  
23 pipeline go through our country, or what we have recently  
24 stated, our nation, and I also oppose of the highway  
25 ending in Wrigley. I do not want to see a highway ending  
26 in this community.

27 I hope the Government of Canada  
28 realize that why I do not want to see the highway end  
29 in Wrigley and they see -- they should for themselves  
30 see why I do not like to see the highway ending in



1 | Wrigley, with the comparison of Simpson which I stated  
2 | out to you yesterday.

3 |   Again on behalf of the people  
4 | in this community, on behalf of them, I do not want to  
5 | see the highway or a pipeline coming through our land or  
6 | our hunting ground.

7 |   Mr. Berger, thank you for  
8 | listening to me and also the people you have listened to  
9 | yesterday, and on the closing of my remark I would also  
10 | thank everybody, especially the reporters and the C.B.C.  
11 | for coming down and listening to our problems, and make  
12 | it known to the outside world, this Canada.

13 |   What this person has said to me  
14 | he suggested that for the time you're going to spend  
15 | tonight that you should go and visit their homes, the  
16 | condition that they're living, and he knows that you're  
17 | working for the government and he would like you to visit  
18 | their homes and see the condition of their houses which  
19 | they're living in. Thank you very much. (WITNESS ASIDE)

20 |   THE COMMISSIONER: Well, thank  
21 | you, chief. I want to thank Chief Hardisty and the  
22 | members of the Band Council and all of you who have  
23 | spoken at the hearings yesterday and today, and all of  
24 | you who have attended. You have given me a clear  
25 | indication of the way you feel about the pipeline. We  
26 | have had every word that has been said recorded on tape  
27 | and it will be printed, and we will send a copy of the  
28 | record of what has been said here to your chief, and I  
29 | will have a copy too so that I can read it and reread  
30 | it, and so that I will not forget what you have

1 | told me these past two days.

2 |                                   I want you to know that all of  
3 | the people who came with me to Wrigley have enjoyed their  
4 | stay here very much, and I want to thank all of you on  
5 | behalf of all of those who came with me, and on my own  
6 | behalf, for allowing us to visit you and for all of us it  
7 | has been a pleasant visit in your pleasant village.

8 |                                   Well, ladies and gentlemen,  
9 | before I close the hearing I should that the gentlemen  
10 | who spoke to you, chief, just before you concluded your  
11 | remarks, said that he understood I was with the  
12 | government. I think you should know that I am not with  
13 | the Government of Canada, I am a judge and I am quite  
14 | independent of the Government of Canada. They don't tell  
15 | me what to do and I don't tell them what to do; but they  
16 | have asked me to come to find out how you feel about the  
17 | pipeline and after I have visited all the people in the  
18 | Mackenzie valley. I will write a report to the  
19 | government and make recommendations to the government  
20 | about the pipeline

21 |                                   I don't know whether I've made  
22 | my relationship to the government clear, but I think I  
23 | should say that, and would be happy, with you, chief, to  
24 | visit some of the homes tonight, if the people would wish  
25 | me to do that so that I can see how the people are  
26 | living.

27 |                                   So we will adjourn the Inquiry  
28 | tonight, and the Inquiry will reconvene in Jean Marie  
29 | River tomorrow sometime. Mussi.

30 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED TO SEPTEMBER 12, 1975)